GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2784
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2004
CLASSIFICATION INTO POOR VERY POOR
Azmi Shri Iliyas;Mahato Shri Bir Sing

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government has categorized the people in `Poor` and `Very Poor` categories;

(b) if so, the criteria thereof;

(c) the number of people placed in these categories, State-wise; and

(d) the purposes of such categorization is supposed to fulfil?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL)

(a) to (d): Government has not categorized the people into `poor` and `very poor`. The existing guidelines issued by the Ministry of Rural Development require the States & UTs to identify the poor households in the rural areas who could be provided assistance under the rural development programmes of the Ministry. The poor people in the rural areas are identified through BPL Census carried out by the State Governments and UT Administrations for which the Ministry provides financial and technical assistance. The list of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families in the rural areas on the basis of BPL Census, 2002 has not been finalized because of the direction of the Hon`ble Supreme Court in this regard. A statement indicating State-wise number of rural poor families as identified on the basis of BPL Census, 1997 is at Annexure-I.